

West Hartford Public Schools  
Board of Education  
Regular Board Meeting  
**January 19, 2016**

Present: Ms. Blanks, Ms. Exum, Dr. Greenberg, Dr. Overmyer-Velazquez, Mr. Pauluk, Mr. Sarzen, Mr. Zydanowicz, Superintendent Moore, Student Representatives Zacharie Mega (Conard), Rachel Schunder (Hall)

Regular Meeting – Town Hall – Legislative Chamber

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<p>The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance/Revision to Agenda Order</i></p>
<p>Four students from Duffy Elementary School presented the “Awesome Club” and discussed all the positive activities they have done to “make the world a better place.”</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Student Participation</i></p>
<p>Mr. John Joyce, 170 South Main Street, commented on the importance of the Board of Education workshops.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Public Communications</i></p>
<p>Ms. Exum moved and Mr. Zydanowicz seconded:</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>New Business</i></p>
<p>THAT the Board of Education receive the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for 2016-2017 and begin the process of reviewing for final approval and adoption at the February 2, 2016 Board of Education Meeting.</p>	
<p>Mr. Chip Ward, Dr. Andrew Morrow, and Mr. Robert Palmer presented the Capital Improvement Plan for the next two years. Their report included all school improvements along with new construction within the school district. Although their plan went through funds needed within the 2016-17 and 2017-18 school years, this plan will actually cover funds needed over the next twelve years. An overview was also given on funds approved for the 2015-16 school year. Going forward there is approximately \$4.5 million dedicated to maintenance of buildings. A detailed list of projects was identified in their report. Board members followed up with questions that included discussion of security upgrades, air conditioning/air ventilation in the elementary schools, and how to prioritize projects.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Presentation of the Capital Improvement Plan</i></p>
<p>The motion passed unanimously.</p>	

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Ms. Blanks moved and Ms. Exum seconded:

THAT the Board of Education review and revise as appropriate the proposed annual Board meeting schedule and adopt a final meeting calendar for the 2016-2017 school year.

Mr. Moore reviewed the 2016-2017 proposed schedule. The Board followed up with scheduling questions.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Moore spoke about the activities that were held within the district for Martin Luther King Day. All speeches/activities were well received. Partnerships within town schools were discussed along with the different roles town officials may have.

Mr. Moore also discussed a partnership West Hartford Public Schools has made with WeiMing International, an international school in China. This program will allow 15-40 students to be exchange students at both Conard and Hall High Schools. This is a unique opportunity for both West Hartford and WeiMing International.

Mid-term exams at the high schools are also underway.

Roszena Haskins, Director of Continuing Education and Diversity Advancement, gave a mid-year update on the Equity and Diversity Council (EDC). The EDC has met as a group and district to collect needs and priorities of the district. Priorities include recruiting highly qualified diverse staff, raising achievement, and always seeking to improve. The EDC hopes to continue to engage our community. Ms. Haskins mentioned the importance for staff, students, and parents to be heard.

EDC Programs:

Grow Your Own Pipeline Program

Future Educators of Diversity – Jamahl Hines, Dave Dippolino (including a partnership with UConn)

Camp Anytown – lead a staff CSI discussing “Courageous Conversations”

Board members and student representatives commented on the

*New Business*

*Adoption of the Annual  
Board Meeting Schedule  
for 2016-2017*

*Superintendents Report*

*Equity and Diversity  
Council Update*

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positive effects the EDC has had on our schools.

Mr. Sarzen moved and Ms. Blanks seconded:

THAT the Board of Education approve the Financial Report for the Period Ending November 30, 2015

*Routine Matters*

Mr. Pauluk presented this has been a quiet month – total salaries decreased by \$24,000 with Unemployment's increase of \$10,000, all normal adjustments mostly related to non-teaching positions. Overall things are going well. There is a \$5000 increase on instrument rental; this is expected to change over time. Nutrition services lunch continues in a downward trend. Last year overall loss in nutrition services was \$214,439, and this is expected to be the same this year.

Chip Ward answered questions from the Board in regards to the Nutrition Services numbers.

The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Exum moved and Mrs. Blanks seconded:

THAT the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Education meeting of December 15, 2015

*Approval  
Of Minutes*

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sarzen would like to commend the district on the Pre-K brochure that was sent out this week.

*Information and  
Reports*

Ms. Exum reported on PLTI and the retreat held at Conard High School this week to kick off a 20- week program. Wonderful collaboration of individuals coming together to launch the program.

Rachel Schunder, Hall H.S. student representative, reported "Men's Night Out" was held last week. Canned goods were collected at the event and donated to the West Hartford food pantry. Regionals are being held, creating a great opportunity for the music students. Play "Anonymous" was performed in the black box. Rachel also mentioned that "Kiss the Girls and Made Them Cry" was nominated

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for the Broadway World Connecticut Award and won.

Zacharie Mega, Conard H.S. student representative, reported that mid-terms are coming to an end. The Penguin Plunge will be held on January 24. Student Council will send members to participate in this event. If they reach their goal of \$1000, Mr. Duarte has agreed to participate in this event with the students. Feb. 8 - 12 will be "Do Something" Week where each club will be asked to do something positive. Unified Theater will continue with their love inclusion program working to include more of our students. This year their theme will be "Orange Inclusion". College applications are being completed and although the district does a great job in prepping students for the process it was mentioned that maybe more information could be given to students that may take different paths. The Gap Year Fair may be informational for some.

Dr. Overmyer-Velazquez announced the following meeting dates:

1. Tuesday, February 2, 2016, Board Awards, 6:00 p.m., King Philip Middle School, 100 King Philip Drive
2. Tuesday, February 2, 2016, Board of Education meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, Legislative Chamber, room 314
3. Wednesday, February 17, 2016, Board of Education meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, Legislative Chamber, room 314

*Announcement of  
Meeting Dates*

Future Agenda Items:

- Cyber security and internet safety
- Safety in sports

*Future Agenda Items*

Mr. Pauluk moved and Mr. Sarzen seconded:

*Executive Session*

THAT the Board of Education move into Executive Session at 9:10 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the performance of the Superintendent

The motion passed unanimously.

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Dr. Greenberg moved, seconded by Mrs. Blanks

THAT the Board of Education adjourn from Executive Session at 9:40 p.m.

The motion passed unanimously.

*Adjournment*

ATTEST:

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Mark Overmyer-Velazquez, Chairperson      Carol A. Blanks, Secretary  
*Respectfully submitted by: Mrs. L. Hamel, Acting Clerk of the Board*

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